The indication of the allowability of Claims 2-5 and 7 is noted with

appreciation. In view of the foregoing rewriting of Claims 2 and 3, as well as

Claim 7, into independent form so as to include the subject matter of Claim 1,

those claims along with Claims 4, 5, 7 and newly added Claims 12-16 should

stand allowed without further comment.

Applications have addressed both the objection to the disclosure and the

issues raised under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2. Accordingly, reconsideration

is requested. To the extent any other formality issues are deemed to be present,

the undersigned requests the Examiner to initiate a telephone call to him in an

effort to expedite prosecution.

The rejection of Claim 1 as being anticipated by Vincze under 35 U.S.C. §

102(b) is respectfully traversed although now moot as is the rejection of Claim 6

on so-called admitted prior art.

With regard to Claim 6, Applicants were the one to discover and verify the

subject matter of Claim 6 as pointed out at page 15, lines 11-24 of their

Specification.

Page 9 of 12

Although all the claims should now be allowable, Applicants wish to one

again point out that their invention ensures smooth sliding while preventing

leakage of fluid fuel such as gasoline. Because such fluid fuel has very low

viscosity, leakage of the fuel can take place form the compressor to the low

pressure driving source through a clearance between the bore and the plunger is

large enough. A flow rate of the fuel decreases as a result of fuel leakage from

the compressor. In the past, the common countermeasure was to make the

clearance gap small throughout the clearance, but this was found to result in a

tendency to displace the axis because of a cylindrical groove such that the

plunger could generate galling. The now-claimed relationship set forth in

amended Claim 1 sets the clearance gap of a portion between the compressor and

the cylindrical groove where the fluid fuel flows to a small gap. The clearance at

the driving source side where the fuel does not flow permits the clearance gap to

be made larger than the first-mentioned clearance group other. As a result, the

plunger and the bore do not contact each other with a high surface pressure even

if the displacement of the axis occurs. Applicants discovered that a portion

whose clearance gap should be made small and a portion whose clearance gap

may be made relatively larger to provide a desired balance preventing fuel

leakage and providing smooth sliding.

Page 10 of 12

Serial No. 10/781,631

Amendment Dated: June 9, 2008

Reply to Office Action Mailed: January 7, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 056208.53174US

With respect to the relationship set forth in Claim 4, that relationship can

also be set forth as La/Ga ≤ + W+Lbc/Gc. In other words, even if a ratio of La/Ga

becomes smaller than a ratio of (La+WLLbc)/Gc, the upper portion 63 and the

lower portion 64 in Fig. 6 contact when the plunger inclines. Consequently, even

if the lateral load is applied towards the plunger, the surface pressure would not

become excessively large. Using Figs. 7-9 of the Vincze patent, the relationship

among clearances comparable to Ga, Gb and Gc appears to be just the opposite of

the claimed relationship on the present application.

Accordingly, early and favorable action is now earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in

general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this

should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as

a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

Page 11 of 12

Serial No. 10/781,631 Amendment Dated: June 9, 2008 Reply to Office Action Mailed: January 7, 2008 Attorney Docket No. 056208.53174US

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056208.53174US).

June 9, 2008

James F. McKeown Registration No. 25,406

Respectfully submitted,

CROWELL & MORING LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300 Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500 Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JFM:slw

5934095\_1.DOC